

## IT WAS AWFUL.

Western League Season Opens Under Poor Conditions.

Dust Storm Makes Topeka Game Far From Enjoyable.

## BEATEN BY ALDERMAN

Ex-Topeka Twirler Held Cooley-Box Safe.

Home Teams Lose in the Other Cities, Too.

Where They Play Tomorrow. Sioux City at Topeka. Des Moines at Keosauqua. Omaha at Lincoln. Lincoln at Denver.

The first game of the season was staged during one of the worst exhibitions of the weatherman. The wind whistled and howled and drove clouds of dust into the bleachers and grandstand. Had Jim Crow street cars been in use in Topeka few people would have ridden in the white section on their way in from the park last night. And the weather was entirely too cold for the comfort of the fans. However, 2,500 people, according to the official estimate, braved the weather and all but a couple of hundred stayed it out. The crowd extended into the field on the north of the west bleachers, but kept out of the way of hot ones back of third so that ground rules were necessary. It was the worst opening day in years in Topeka and the loyal ones who faced the weather deserve a good ball team for their bravery. And despite the opening performance, Cooley has one.

Until the last stages of the game the local yesterday played the poorest quality of ball exhibited by them this spring. Whether it be stage right, or something else, the result was the same and the game looked like one between some state league team and the Pirates. There was plenty of baseball in our medicine chest, but the condition of the chest could not be worked. The Sioux played ball all the time and thus won easily.

The one sad feature of the game was the injury of Anders. When Kerna made a Tyron Cobb drive into the middle sack. It is, of course, to be regretted but could hardly be helped just for the sake of the game. The injury of the sore topped warrior remains to be seen, but every fan hopes the classy infielder will soon be back at his station.

The game in detail:

**First Inning.**—Sioux City—Quillen, first man put up, was hit by a pitched ball. Anders doubled, scoring Quillen. Collins singled, scoring Anders and was thrown out trying to steal second. Simmons flied out to Kunkle. No runs.

**Second Inning.**—Sioux City—Stem struck out. Welch singled to right field. Miller walked. Alderman struck out. Welch and Miller advanced on a balk. Quillen singled, scoring Miller and Welch. Anders out on a high fly to Woolley. Two runs.

**Third Inning.**—Sioux City—Collins sent up infield fly. Kerna grabbed it. Neighbors singled to right field. Penick hit to pitcher, forcing Neighbors at second. Stem hit to shortstop, who threw to second; Kahl dropped ball. Both safe. By a similar play Miller and Welch advanced. Welch singled to center, scoring two runs. Miller hit to third and was thrown out by Kunkle. Two runs.

**Fourth Inning.**—Sioux City—Kaufman is taken from the box. Wright on firing line. Welch walked. Alderman first man up. Quillen bunted and was safe at first. Alderman went to second. Anders hit to third and was out at first. Collins hit to second. Kahl batted; the ball; two men came in; Collins safe at first. Collins out stealing second. Neighbors hit to second; thrown out at first. Two runs.

**Fifth Inning.**—Sioux City—Kunkle hit to short, forcing Kaufman at second. Neighbors hit to second, scoring Woolley. Thomson hit to short and was thrown out at center. Two runs.

**Sixth Inning.**—Sioux City—Wright hit to pitcher, thrown out at first. Woolley struck out. Reilly walked. Thomson hit to short, forcing Kunkle at second. Neighbors hit to second, scoring Woolley. Thomson hit to short and was thrown out at center. One run.

**Seventh Inning.**—Sioux City—Alderman struck out. Quillen hit for three bases. Anders

**Eighth Inning.**—Sioux City—Quillen, first man put up, was hit by a pitched ball. Anders doubled, scoring Quillen. Collins singled, scoring Anders and was thrown out trying to steal second. Simmons flied out to Kunkle. No runs.

**Ninth Inning.**—Sioux City—Stem struck out. Welch singled to right field. Miller walked. Alderman struck out. Welch and Miller advanced on a balk. Quillen singled, scoring Miller and Welch. Anders out on a high fly to Woolley. Two runs.

**Tenth Inning.**—Sioux City—Collins sent up infield fly. Kerna grabbed it. Neighbors singled to right field. Penick hit to pitcher, forcing Neighbors at second. Stem hit to shortstop, who threw to second; Kahl dropped ball. Both safe. By a similar play Miller and Welch advanced. Welch singled to center, scoring two runs. Miller hit to third and was thrown out by Kunkle. Two runs.

**Eleventh Inning.**—Sioux City—Kaufman is taken from the box. Wright on firing line. Welch walked. Alderman first man up. Quillen bunted and was safe at first. Alderman went to second. Anders hit to third and was out at first. Collins hit to second. Kahl batted; the ball; two men came in; Collins safe at first. Collins out stealing second. Neighbors hit to second; thrown out at first. Two runs.

**Twelfth Inning.**—Sioux City—Kunkle hit to short, forcing Kaufman at second. Neighbors hit to second, scoring Woolley. Thomson hit to short and was thrown out at center. Two runs.

**Thirteenth Inning.**—Sioux City—Wright hit to pitcher, thrown out at first. Woolley struck out. Reilly walked. Thomson hit to short, forcing Kunkle at second. Neighbors hit to second, scoring Woolley. Thomson hit to short and was thrown out at center. One run.

**Fourteenth Inning.**—Sioux City—Alderman struck out. Quillen hit for three bases. Anders

**Fifteenth Inning.**—Sioux City—Quillen, first man put up, was hit by a pitched ball. Anders doubled, scoring Quillen. Collins singled, scoring Anders and was thrown out trying to steal second. Simmons flied out to Kunkle. No runs.

**Sixteenth Inning.**—Sioux City—Stem struck out. Welch singled to right field. Miller walked. Alderman struck out. Welch and Miller advanced on a balk. Quillen singled, scoring Miller and Welch. Anders out on a high fly to Woolley. Two runs.

**Seventeenth Inning.**—Sioux City—Collins sent up infield fly. Kerna grabbed it. Neighbors singled to right field. Penick hit to pitcher, forcing Neighbors at second. Stem hit to shortstop, who threw to second; Kahl dropped ball. Both safe. By a similar play Miller and Welch advanced. Welch singled to center, scoring two runs. Miller hit to third and was thrown out by Kunkle. Two runs.

**Eighteenth Inning.**—Sioux City—Kaufman is taken from the box. Wright on firing line. Welch walked. Alderman first man up. Quillen bunted and was safe at first. Alderman went to second. Anders hit to third and was out at first. Collins hit to second. Kahl batted; the ball; two men came in; Collins safe at first. Collins out stealing second. Neighbors hit to second; thrown out at first. Two runs.

**Nineteenth Inning.**—Sioux City—Kunkle hit to short, forcing Kaufman at second. Neighbors hit to second, scoring Woolley. Thomson hit to short and was thrown out at center. Two runs.

## STANDING OF TEAMS.

Western League.			
Cities	Won.	Lost.	Pct.
Omaha	1	0	1.000
Sioux City	1	0	1.000
Lincoln	1	0	1.000
TOPEKA	0	1	.000
Denver	0	1	.000
Wichita	0	1	.000
St. Joseph	0	1	.000

  

National League.			
Cities	Won.	Lost.	Pct.
Philadelphia	5	1	.833
St. Louis	4	2	.667
Chicago	4	2	.667
New York	3	3	.500
Cincinnati	3	3	.500
Boston	2	4	.333
St. Louis	2	4	.333
Chicago	1	5	.167

  

American League.			
Cities	Won.	Lost.	Pct.
Detroit	3	2	.600
New York	3	2	.600
Cleveland	3	2	.600
St. Louis	2	3	.400
Philadelphia	2	3	.400
Washington	2	3	.400
Chicago	1	4	.200

American Association.			
Cities	Won.	Lost.	Pct.
Toledo	6	2	.750
St. Paul	5	3	.625
Columbus	4	4	.500
Kansas City	4	4	.500
Indianapolis	3	5	.375
Louisville	2	6	.250
Milwaukee	1	7	.125

hit to second and was thrown out at first. Kahl held Quillen at third. Collins bunted and was out at first. No runs.

**Second Inning.**—Sioux City—Abbott flied out to second. Kahl walked. Kerna hit to short and forced Kahl. Kerna stealing second, injured Anders. Sioux City second baseman, Kerna was forced to leave the game. Wright hit to short and was thrown out at first. No runs.

**Third Inning.**—Sioux City—Neighbors singled to left. Penick bunted and was out at first, advancing Neighbors to second. Stem hit a high fly to centerfield and was out. Neighbors went to third on the play. Welch singled to center and Neighbors came home. Welch was thrown out by Kerna, while trying to steal second. One run.

**Fourth Inning.**—Sioux City—Woolley flied out to second. Reilly hit a line drive to short and was thrown out at first. Thomson hit grounder to third and was out at first. No runs.

**Fifth Inning.**—Sioux City—Miller walked. Alderman walked. Quillen bunted and was safe at first. Three men on bases. Anders hit to first. Miller thrown out at home plate. Bases full again. Collins walked forcing in a run. Anders hit a high fly to Reilly at second who dropped the ball, then picked it up again and threw to home, preventing a run and retiring the side. One run.

**Sixth Inning.**—Sioux City—Pennell hit a high fly to right and was out. Kunkle hit a line drive to short and was thrown out at first. Kunkle hit a grounder to third baseman who fumbled the ball. Kunkle came home. Kerna safe at first. Wright walked filling the bases. Woolley hit to second and the side was out. One run.

**Seventh Inning.**—Sioux City—Penick flied to center and was out. Welch hit fly to same place and was out. Stem was hit by pitcher, but was thrown out trying to steal second. No runs.

**Eighth Inning.**—Sioux City—Reilly singled to left. Thomson walked. Pennell hit drive. Thomson over out. Reilly went to third. Kunkle hit for three bases to right, scoring Reilly and Pennell. Abbott hit to second and was thrown out at first. Kunkle scored on the play. Kahl put a fly and the game was over three runs.

**Ninth Inning.**—Sioux City—Penick flied to center and was out. Welch hit fly to same place and was out. Stem was hit by pitcher, but was thrown out trying to steal second. No runs.

**Tenth Inning.**—Sioux City—Stem struck out. Welch singled to right field. Miller walked. Alderman struck out. Welch and Miller advanced on a balk. Quillen singled, scoring Miller and Welch. Anders out on a high fly to Woolley. Two runs.

**Eleventh Inning.**—Sioux City—Collins sent up infield fly. Kerna grabbed it. Neighbors singled to right field. Penick hit to pitcher, forcing Neighbors at second. Stem hit to shortstop, who threw to second; Kahl dropped ball. Both safe. By a similar play Miller and Welch advanced. Welch singled to center, scoring two runs. Miller hit to third and was thrown out by Kunkle. Two runs.

**Twelfth Inning.**—Sioux City—Kaufman is taken from the box. Wright on firing line. Welch walked. Alderman first man up. Quillen bunted and was safe at first. Alderman went to second. Anders hit to third and was out at first. Collins hit to second. Kahl batted; the ball; two men came in; Collins safe at first. Collins out stealing second. Neighbors hit to second; thrown out at first. Two runs.

**Thirteenth Inning.**—Sioux City—Kunkle hit to short, forcing Kaufman at second. Neighbors hit to second, scoring Woolley. Thomson hit to short and was thrown out at center. Two runs.

**Fourteenth Inning.**—Sioux City—Wright hit to pitcher, thrown out at first. Woolley struck out. Reilly walked. Thomson hit to short, forcing Kunkle at second. Neighbors hit to second, scoring Woolley. Thomson hit to short and was thrown out at center. One run.

**Fifteenth Inning.**—Sioux City—Alderman struck out. Quillen hit for three bases. Anders

**Sixteenth Inning.**—Sioux City—Quillen, first man put up, was hit by a pitched ball. Anders doubled, scoring Quillen. Collins singled, scoring Anders and was thrown out trying to steal second. Simmons flied out to Kunkle. No runs.

**Seventeenth Inning.**—Sioux City—Stem struck out. Welch singled to right field. Miller walked. Alderman struck out. Welch and Miller advanced on a balk. Quillen singled, scoring Miller and Welch. Anders out on a high fly to Woolley. Two runs.

**Eighteenth Inning.**—Sioux City—Collins sent up infield fly. Kerna grabbed it. Neighbors singled to right field. Penick hit to pitcher, forcing Neighbors at second. Stem hit to shortstop, who threw to second; Kahl dropped ball. Both safe. By a similar play Miller and Welch advanced. Welch singled to center, scoring two runs. Miller hit to third and was thrown out by Kunkle. Two runs.

**Nineteenth Inning.**—Sioux City—Kaufman is taken from the box. Wright on firing line. Welch walked. Alderman first man up. Quillen bunted and was safe at first. Alderman went to second. Anders hit to third and was out at first. Collins hit to second. Kahl batted; the ball; two men came in; Collins safe at first. Collins out stealing second. Neighbors hit to second; thrown out at first. Two runs.

**Twentieth Inning.**—Sioux City—Kunkle hit to short, forcing Kaufman at second. Neighbors hit to second, scoring Woolley. Thomson hit to short and was thrown out at center. Two runs.

**Twenty-first Inning.**—Sioux City—Wright hit to pitcher, thrown out at first. Woolley struck out. Reilly walked. Thomson hit to short, forcing Kunkle at second. Neighbors hit to second, scoring Woolley. Thomson hit to short and was thrown out at center. One run.

**Twenty-second Inning.**—Sioux City—Alderman struck out. Quillen hit for three bases. Anders

Batteries—Knapp and Clark; Schreiber and Weaver. Umpire—Mullin.

Omaha 2; Wichita 0.

Wichita, April 23.—Frank Isbell, who has played with the Chicago White Sox ever since the American League was organized, 12 years ago, played his first game of minor league baseball here at the opening of the Western League. Isbell played first base and managed his team, the Wichita Jobbers. The parade that preceded the game was given in evenness owing to cold but fair weather. The crowd is estimated at 4,500.

Mayor Davidson pitched the first ball. Many business houses observed a half holiday. Omaha was the visiting team. The game started at 3 o'clock with Omaha, at home.

Wichita was unable to hit Keeley and suffered a shutout in the opening game. Shaner was wild and was replaced by Alchison in the fourth when the game was lost.

Score by innings: R.H.E. Omaha . . . 0 0 2 1 0 0 0 0 0 3 7 0 Wichita . . . 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

Batteries—Keeley and Gendling; Shaner, Alchison and Shaw. Umpire—Clark.

**ALL MAJOR LEAGUE DOINGS.**

**Philadelphia Americans Shut Out Boston in Fast Game.**

The Philadelphia-Boston game was the feature event in American League doings Friday. The Quakers played a fast game and shut Boston down with only four hits.

Bunching hits and driving three slabs from the box, Detroit won from Cleveland, by score 5 to 2. The Michigan boys secured 12 hits. Browning on the slab for Detroit was hit hard but excellent support saved him.

Washington was again defeated by New York on her home grounds. The Senators played fast but luck was against them. Score, 3 to 1.

The St. Louis-Chicago game was postponed on account of rain.

In the National League, Pittsburgh world's champions, shut out St. Louis. Powell was in the box for the champions and pitched an almost matchless game, allowing St. Louis only four scattered hits. Backman was driven from the box. Corridon, who replaced him, was unable to stem the tide of defeat for St. Louis. Pittsburgh played an errorless game and secured 11 hits. Score, 4 to 0.

Playing an errorless contest, Philadelphia shut out Boston. Score, 3 to 0. The Beantowners were unable to take but one hit from Humphries. The Quakers hit safely six times.

Scanton's twirling gave Brooklyn the game over New York. Brooklyn played an errorless game. Scanton allowed but four hits. Raymond struck out eight Brooklynites but the second inning proved his undoing. Brooklyn scoring two runs in it.

Rain prevented the Chicago-Cincinnati game at Chicago.

Out of three games played in the American Association two were shutouts. Toledo blanked Columbus 2 to 0 and St. Paul prevented Minneapolis, score, 4 to 0. Louisville beat Indianapolis, score, 5 to 2.

**AMERICAN LEAGUE.**

**AT CLEVELAND.** R.H.E. Detroit . . . 12 0 0 Cleveland . . . 7 2 1 Batteries—Browning and Stange; Linke, Berger and Clarke, Bemis.

**AT BOSTON.** R.H.E. Philadelphia . . . 3 0 0 Boston . . . 0 0 0 Batteries—Krause and Thomas; Hall and Carrigan.

**AT WASHINGTON.** R.H.E. New York . . . 1 0 1 Washington . . . 0 0 0 Batteries—Quinn and Sweeney; Johnson and Street.

**NATIONAL LEAGUE.**

**AT PHILADELPHIA.** R.H.E. Boston . . . 0 0 0 Philadelphia . . . 3 0 0 Batteries—White and Graham; Moore, Humphreys and Dolin.

**AT NEW YORK.** R.H.E. Brooklyn . . . 6 0 0 New York . . . 0 0 0 Batteries—Scanton and Bergen; Raymond and Wilson.

**AT PITTSBURG.** R.H.E. St. Louis . . . 0 0 0 Pittsburgh . . . 4 1 0 Batteries—Corridon, Dugan and Phelps; Powell and Gibson.

**AT NEW YORK.** R.H.E. Brooklyn . . . 3 0 0 St. Louis . . . 0 0 0 Batteries—Scanton and Bergen; Raymond and Wilson.

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION.**

**AT LOUISVILLE.** R.H.E. Indianapolis . . . 0 0 0 Louisville . . . 5 0 0 Batteries—Kern and Wright; Stem, Kahl and Penick.

**AT MINNEAPOLIS.** R.H.E. St. Paul . . . 0 0 0 Minneapolis . . . 4 1 0 Batteries—Kern and Wright; Stem, Kahl and Penick.

**AT COLUMBUS.** R.H.E. Toledo . . . 2 0 0 Columbus . . . 0 0 0 Batteries—Kern and Wright; Stem, Kahl and Penick.

**Other Games.**

McPherson 7, Ellsworth 3. St. Mary's 1, Wesleyan 0. Arkansas City 16, Blackwell 2. Great Bend 4, Clay Center 3.

**Postponed Games.**

Chicago, April 22.—National: Cincinnati-Chicago postponed, rain. Milwaukee, April 22.—American association: Kansas City-Milwaukee postponed, rain.

St. Louis, April 22.—American: Chicago-St. Louis postponed, rain.

See J. THOMAS LUMBER CO. for lumber and DEWEY PORTLAND CEMENT. Guaranteed the best manufactured.

## MISS VAN LAEYS WINS.

Awarded Season Ticket—Paid Attendance 2,812.

Miss Gertrude Van Laeys, 118 East Eighth avenue, gave the season pass offered by the State Journal to the person guessing nearest the paid attendance at the opening of the Western League baseball season in Topeka.

The paid attendance was 2,812. That is the number of paid general admission tickets Mr. Cooley had to settle with Mr. Fairweather of the Sioux City club. There were more than 3,000 people in the grounds.

Crowds are certainly deceiving for people who were at the game guessed the attendance as high as four and five thousand. While the crowd looked large, it was also noticeable that every body had plenty of room; they were not packed in the seats of the big days last year. However, both Fairweather and Cooley are highly pleased with the attendance considering the cold, raw day and the high wind which made it so disagreeable.

There was a great variety of guesses, the range being from nothing to over 10,000. The guesses were nothing, thinking it might rain and there would be no game. The majority of the guesses ran between three and four thousand, while a great many guessed figures like 3333 and 4444.

Practically one thousand guesses were received at the State Journal office. The guesses were all sent to the great popularity of the game and also how widely this paper is read.

While most of the replies were natural, some were not. One guesser received from all parts of Kansas, as well as several outside states, even as far away as Oregon and Washington.

When the guesses were received, Miss Van Laeys had her guess made. She also expressed her thanks to the paper.

Miss Van Laeys' guess was 2,813. There were others who were close, guessing between 2,800 and 2,900: H. D. W. 2,816 East Tenth avenue, 2,875; Mrs. M. McNeal, 618 Kansas avenue, 2,800; Mrs. A. N. Goodman, 921 Garfield avenue, 2,845; S. T. Grimes, 1425 Clay street, 2,821; C. J. Kistler, R. D. No. 7, 2,878; C. E. Cochran, 1325 Kansas avenue, 2,828; C. J. Kistler, 1325 Kansas avenue, 2,838; H. D. Whitlock, 719 Kansas street, 2,878; J. L. Wallace, 423 Polk street, 2,863; J. D. McMahon, 1925 Polk street, 2,875; George Kiero, 209 Tyler street, 2,888; W. E. Seller, 322 West Seventh street, 2,862; Mrs. R. Shakeshaft, 1621 Mulvane street, 2,832; O. M. Ethell, 313 Western avenue, 2,895.

In asking the State Journal for baseball scores please call Independent 518.

**HERINGTON H. S. BASEBALL.**

**Classy Team Defeating Everything in Central Kansas This Year.**

Herington, Kan., April 23.—The Herington high school baseball team has won every game this season and with the players have lined up for the season they expect to gain the championship of central Kansas in high school circles this year.

The last game with Lindsay resulted in a 4 to 2 victory for the locals and placed them on the road to a victory over other schools—As Lindsay is conceded to be one of the strong teams of the state.

The team has won from such strong teams as Council Grove, White City, Lindsay and other high school organizations in this part of the state.

The present schedule calls for a game with Salina today; the Kansas university freshmen at Lawrence, May 7; Salina, May 14; and May 20. The other dates have not been filled and Manager Fred Thompson is anxious to play any good team in this part of the state.

The team includes the following players: Lynch, ss.; Calkins, 3b.; Dugan, p.; Baird, lf.; Thompson, 1b.; Cousins, 2b.; Sangwin, c.; Sandel, rf.; and Cleese, of. All are members of high school classes and expect to enter college teams in the near future.

Fred Thompson, manager, and one of the fastest players on the team, will enter Washburn college next fall. Baird, Biedose and Sandel will also enter Washburn. Kansas university claims Lynch, Calkins and Dugan. Cousins is a member of the Kansas State Agricultural college.

The way this aggregation is playing ball this spring the above mentioned players are expected to enter college try out in a few years. All of the boys are playing with college positions in view and they have developed into fast, classy performers.

**JEFFRIES IN GOOD SHAPE.**

Measurements indicate that he is in fighting trim.

Ben Lomond, April 23.—Height, 6 feet 11 inches; neck, 13; chest (normal), 37; chest (expanded), 60; waist, 28; thighs, 28; calf, 10; biceps, 16; forearm, 13; wrist, 8 1/4; weight, 228 pounds.

The hot sun did not check Jeffries in his training today and he put in his longest boxing session so far in two bouts with Berger and Armstrong. Although the latter was quite willing to fight, Jeffries was not in the mood to be taken on for two rounds. The going was fast in both bouts, but the big school still has a control over his opponent. Jeffries was the aggressor in both fights and he had found a partner.

Berger, while coming out of the clinch, frequently landed a right jab. This is one of Johnson's favorite punches and Berger employed it whenever possible, coaching Jeffries in blocking it.

**Kennedy on K. U. Faculty.**

Lawrence, Kan., April 23.—Bert Kennedy, football coach for the University of Kansas, will have a place on the faculty as director of the physical education department.

This is in accordance with the recent ruling of the schools in the Missouri valley conference which forbids the employment of coaches who are not regular members of the teaching staff.

**MORE MONSTER LOCOMOTIVES.**

Denver & Rio Grande Has Purchased Many "250 Tonners."

For use in the Bingham district and on the Salt Lake division, the Denver & Rio Grande has just received from the American Locomotive company eight mallet articulated locomotives which are said to be the most powerful of any ordinary type of locomotive, built especially for service in the Bingham district.

Word comes from St. Joseph that the Rock Island and Grand Island railroads have at last arrived at the sensible conclusion that the best way to get the most out of their locomotives is to get the most out of their men.

The old depot at Watheana is to be moved to Blair and a new depot will be built at Watheana. The new depot will be built east of the site of the present one and across the creek, a much better location.

**COMMENCE ON ORIENT SHOPS.**

Word on \$500,000 Industry at Wichita in Few Days.

Wichita, Kan., April 23.—W. W. Colpitts, chief engineer of the Orient railway, and Mr. Gilman of the Westinghouse, Church Kerr Construction company, which has the contract for building the Orient shops in West Wichita, will arrive in the city in a few days with men to begin work on the shops.

The first unit of the shops, costing about \$200,000, will be completed this year. The building will be constructed of reinforced concrete and will be built in such a manner that the second unit may be added when needed.

The shops will be the general engine and car repair shops of the company. Mr. Gilman will personally superintend the work of shop construction.

## RAILROAD NEWS.

Santa Fe Replaces Telegraph by Telephone.

First Railroad to Do This in the United States.

## SOON HAVE 5,000 MILES

Various Circuits to Extend All Over Big System.

Other Items of General Interest in Railroad World.

Contracts have been let for equipping the Santa Fe system with telephone service to replace the telegraph for the dispatching of trains between Albuquerque and Mojave. With the completion of this service and the closing of a few gaps between Albuquerque and Newton, Kan., the Santa Fe will have superseded the telegraph with the telephone on the entire system between Chicago and the Pacific coast.

Between Mojave and Bakersfield, where the tracks of the Southern Pacific are used. This gives to the Santa Fe the distinction of being the first great railroad to replace the telegraph with the telephone for the operation of trains although a dozen or more railroads are using the telephone on parts of their respective systems.

The contract between Albuquerque and Mojave involves 888 miles. From Newton, Kan., to Chicago, 600 miles, the telephone system is used. The distance between San Francisco and Bakersfield where the telephone is in use